

California Farm Bureau Federation

April 2, 1993

James C. Eller, Manager
Governmental Affairs Division
1127-11th Street, Suite 626
Sacramento, California 95814
Telephone: (916) 446-4647

Mr. Brain J. Parker
Department of Environmental
Management
601 Texas Street
Fairfield, California 94533

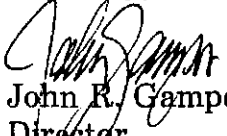
Dear Mr. Parker:

The California Farm Bureau Federation appreciates the opportunity to comment on Solano County's notice of preparation of a negative declaration relative to Use Permit Application No. U-92-24/RP-92-02.

This proposed project by Mega Sand, Inc. to annually dredge, screen and stockpile 3.2 million cubic yards of sand for re-sale on Decker Island seems to beg for review under the California Environmental Quality Act. Furthermore, the location of the proposed development within the statutory definition of the Primary Zone of Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Public Resources Code Section 29728) clearly demands such environmental documentation. We believe an environmental impact report is vital to the county's ability to substantiate the mandatory written findings as required by Public Resources Code Section 29765. As strong supporters of the Delta Protection Act, we must respectfully urge your review of and compliance with all of the provisions of Division 19.5 of the Public Resources Code.

Thank you very much for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,


John R. Gamper
Director
Taxation and Land Use

cc: ✓ Ross Sargent, Interim Director
Delta Protection Commission

Carolyn Richardson, Director
Department of Environmental Advocacy
CFBF Legal Services Division

Jackie Stewart, President
Contra Costa County Farm Bureau

Presented in 540.

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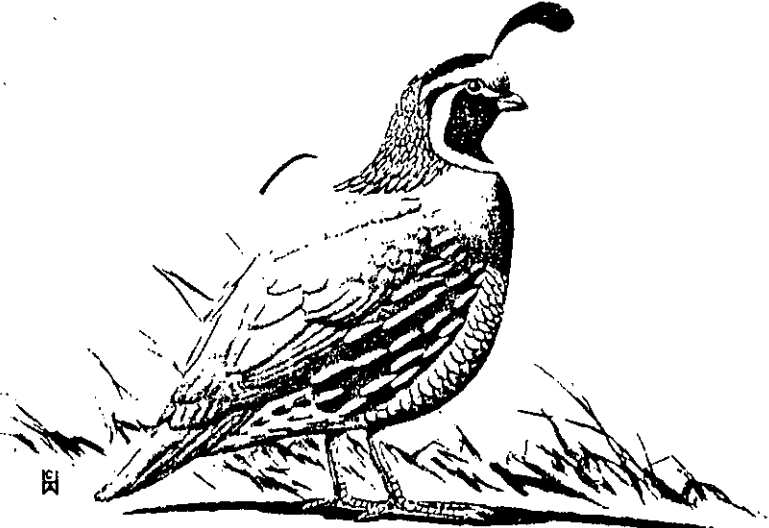
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Marc Holmes
Program Director



MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 53
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

5 April 1993

Mr. Bryan J. Parker, Planner - Solano County
601 Texas St.
Fairfield, CA 94553

Dear Sir: REApp*U-92-24

Mega Sand Co's. application for a permit to sand mine Decker Island is under consideration. You have proposed a permit be issued on the basis of a Negative Declaration.

This proposed project must NOT be permitted to proceed on the basis of a Negative Declaration. Mega Sand proposes to mine 3.2 million yards of sand from Decker Island.. Such activity will have effects on water quality.

Such a massive project must NOT be permitted unless and/or until the Regional Water Quality Control Board, US Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish & Game have done detailed reviews of the proposed project.

We assert there are at least 20 species of wildlife on the island and among such the Great Blue Heron, said to be nesting on the island.

Under the circumstances the project must NOT be permitted to proceed on the basis of the existing Negative Declaration.

Your truly,


A. B. McNabney

Vice President-Conservation

cc :US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Dept. of Fish & Game, Napa
Sonoma Audubon, Conservation Committee



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Department of
Environmental Management

601 TEXAS STREET
FAIRFIELD, CALIFORNIA • 94533

COUNTY OF SOLANO

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF
DRAFT NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Solano County Environmental Review Committee has evaluated the project described below and has determined that a draft Negative Declaration of environmental impact be prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Use Permit Application No. U-92-24 / RP-92-02 of Mega Sand to dredge sand from the Sacramento River between 6.5 & 14.2 using two suction dredges and pump sand onto Decker Island for screening and stockpiling for re-sale. Mine approximately 3.2 million cubic yards per year of sand, excavate and dike a 30 acre sediment settling basin on Decker Island to meet State return sediment settling basin on Decker Island to meet State return water quality standards. Associated site work to prepare storage area and installation of processing equipment. Located on the Sacramento River and a 473 acre parcel on Decker Island southwest of the City of Rio Vista on the Solano / Sacramento County Line.

Copies of the environmental document are available for public review at the Solano County Department of Environmental Management, 601 Texas Street, Fairfield, California, 94533. Written comments on the Negative Declaration will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on April 5, 1993.

Daily Republic
Legal Ad - One time
Wednesday March 3, 1993

bpasand.not

BEEMAN & ASSOCIATES

Biological Consultants

Gary A. Beeman

777 Moraga Road

Lafayette, CA, 94549

(510) 284-2602

FAX (510) 284-2663

Specializing in Wildlife Status and Monitoring Field Surveys

April 2, 1993

Mr. Ross Sargent
Interim Director
Delta Protection Commission
Room 4035
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA. 95814

Dear Mr. Sargent,

As per your request, we have reviewed the Notice of Preparation of Draft for Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act with Use Permit Application No. U-92-24 / RP-92-02 of Mega Sand in Solano County. It is our opinion, before any permit issuance be granted, that a complete biological impact survey be conducted to determine the possible negative impact of this project on native flora and/or fauna. It was noted that many wildlife species of special concern, threatened, or endangered were not mentioned in the original draft. The following is a partial list of those potential wildlife species not mentioned that should be addressed in impact and field surveys:

BIRDS

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) (rookery site) - CSC
Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) (breeding) - CSC
Tricolored Blackbird (*Agelaius tricolor*) (nesting colony) - ST
Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) (nesting colony) - CSC, 2
Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) (burrow site) - CSC

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

Silvery Legless Lizard (*Anniella pulchra pulchra*) - CSC
Pacific Pond Turtle (*Clemmys marmorata*) - CSC
California Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) - CSC, 2
California Red-legged Frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*) - CSC, 2
Giant Garter Snake (*Thamnophis gigas*) - ST, 2

MAMMALS

Pallid Bat (*Antrozous pallidus*) - CSC
Suisun Shrew (*Sorex ornatus sinuosus*) - CSC, 1

UNITED ANGLERS OF CALIFORNIA

2530 SAN PABLO AVENUE
SUITE #D / BERKELEY
CA 94702 / (510) 845-3533

April 2, 1993

Brian J. Parker, AICP
Department of Environmental Management
County of Solano
601 Texas Steet
Fairfield, CA 94533

Re: Mega Sand Use Permit Application No. U-92-24 / RP-92-02

Dear Mr. Parker:

United Anglers is the state's largest fishery conservation organization representing some 80,000 anglers across the state dedicated to saving and restoring our state's once prolithic fisheries. We would like to advise you of our concerns regarding the potential impacts which could occur if the Mega Sand project is permitted without an appropriate environmental impact report.

We anticipate that mining some 3.2 million cubic yards of sand per year in the area near Decker Island could negatively impact a number of species currently listed and protected by the state and federal endangered species acts. While we are concerned for all of these species and those which may soon be listed, we are most apprehensive about the potential project impacts on the Sacramento winter-run Chinook salmon and the Delta smelt.

We are also very concerned about the impact this project could have on the striped bass fishery as its newly spawned young migrate through the proposed project area, and how this project will affect the quality of the environment on Decker Island. For all of these reasons we urge you to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act and other appropriate state and federal laws prior to permitting this project.

Sincerely,

John Beuttler
Executive Director

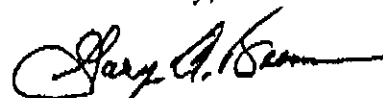
cc: Congressman George Miller
State Senator Pat Johnston
State Senator Michael Thompson
John Sullivan, DFG Deputy Director
John Turner, DFG Environmental Services
Wayne White, USFWS Ecological Services
Roger Walcott, NMFS Santa Rosa

a:msp.sc

INSECTS

Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (*Desmocerus californicus dimorphus*) - FT
Delta Green Ground Beetle (*Elaphrus viridis*) - FT
Delta June Beetle (*Polyphylla stellata*) - 2
Antloch Dunes Anthicid Beetle (*Anthicus antiochensis*) - 2
Antloch Sphecid Wasp (*Philanthus nasalis*) - 2
Antloch Andrenid Bee (*Perdita scitula antiochensis*) - 2
Antloch Mutilid Wasp (*Myrmosula pacifica*) - 2
Antloch Cophuran Robberfly (*Cophura hurdi*) - 2
Antloch Efferian Robberfly (*Efferia antiochi*) - 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary A. Beeman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

Gary A. Beeman